

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hideo ANRAKU, et al.

Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP99/03195

Group Art Unit: Not yet designated

Confirmation No.: Not yet designated

Examiner: Not yet designated

Filed: December 13, 2001

December 13, 2001

For: VACUUM SAMPLE COLLECTING TUBE AND METHOD OF COLLECTING
SAMPLE UNDER VACUUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (substitute for Form PTO-1449) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The documents listed on Form PTO-1449 correspond to the documents cited in the International Search Report for corresponding International Application No. PCT/JP99/03195 (copy attached), and it is understood that the International Bureau has provided copies of these documents to the USPTO and that such documents should be available to the Examiner. If that

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Based on PCT/JP99/03195
				Confirmation Number	Not yet designated
				Filing Date	December 13, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hideo ANRAKU, et al
				Art Unit	Not yet designated
				Examiner Name	Not yet designated
				Attorney Docket Number	Q67497
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i>			
		JP	11-235329				
		JP	8-289881				
		JP	3-67722	UM			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
---------------------------	------------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is indicate here if English language Translation is attached.